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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT**5 MARCH 2018****(U) CALIFORNIA****(U) San Francisco – The World’s Largest DDoS Attack Took GitHub Offline**

(U) In a growing sign of the increased sophistication of both cyber-attacks and defenses, GitHub has revealed that this week it weathered the largest-known DDoS attack in history. DDoS—or distributed denial of service in full—is a cyber-attack that attempts to bring websites and web-based services down by bombarding them with so much traffic that their services and infrastructure become disabled. DDoS is a common tactic used to force targets offline.

SOURCE: 2 March 2018, [TechCrunch](#)

(U) NATIONAL**(U) Michigan – Student in Custody after Allegedly Shooting Parents at Central Michigan University**

(U) Mount Pleasant – A 19-year-old Central Michigan University (CMU) student, whom officials accused of fatally shooting his mother, father, and a police officer, was taken into custody just after midnight on 2 March after a nearly day-long fugitive hunt involving more than 100 police officers. CMU officials said the suspect was taken into custody after a person reported to police they spotted him on a train passing through the north end of campus shortly after midnight. He was arrested without incident. No students, faculty, or staff were injured in the incident, according to the school.

SOURCE: 3 March 2018, [ABC News](#)

(U) Washington – Student Detailed Mass Murder Plot at High School

(U) Everett – A student was arrested after his grandmother reported of a plot in his journal to attack a high school while dressed up as one of the shooters from the Columbine massacre, according to court documents filed last week. The 18-year-old suspect was charged with first-degree attempted murder, first-degree robbery with a firearm, and possession of an explosive device as part of a plot outlined in his journal. The suspect’s plot detailed mass murder and the use of homemade explosive devices.

SOURCE: 4 March 2018, [FOX News](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Germany – Government Hack Was Part of Worldwide Campaign**

(U) Berlins – A powerful cyber-attack on Germany’s government computer network was part of a worldwide campaign likely carried out by a Russian hacker group known as Snake, according to the Chief Federal Prosecutor’s Office. Officials also said a preliminary investigation has begun into possible espionage related to the incident, which was first detected in December 2017, but may have begun much earlier. A spokesperson for the Interior Ministry stated that officials had averted most of the danger immediately upon learning of the cyber-attack, but he declined to say if the attack was ongoing.

SOURCE: 2 March 2018, [Reuters](#)

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UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**(U) Turkey – Four ISIS Suspects Detained in Threat to US Embassy**

(U) Ankara – Turkish police detained four ISIS suspects as part of an investigation into a possible attack on the US Embassy. The arrests came as the embassy was closed today over an unspecified security threat. The Anadolu News Agency said police detained four Iraqi nationals in connection with the threat against the embassy—two were detained on a bus at a security check on a highway, and the other two were detained by police acting on information provided by their co-conspirators. Authorities had also detained 12 ISIS suspects and were searching for eight others, although it was not clear if these arrests were linked to the threat against the US Embassy.

SOURCE: 5 March 2018, [Associated Press](#)

(U) United Kingdom – Teen Gets Prison for Terror Plots

(U) London – A 17-year-old Welsh teen was sentenced last week to at least 11 years in prison after being convicted of plotting an ISIS-inspired attack on various targets, including a Justin Bieber concert. Evidence during the trial showed the suspect had researched several targets in Cardiff, including a shopping center and the Bieber concert on June 2017. The teenaged suspect, who suffers from an autism spectrum disorder, was convicted at the Birmingham Crown Court in November 2017.

SOURCE: 3 March 2018, [Associated Press](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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